# CITY TO ATTEMPT TO COLLECT MANY **ANCIENT TAX LIENS**

Comptroller Craig Going to Court for a Decision on Old Assessments.

Can the city collect ancient debts, some of them eighty-eight years old? Comptroller Craig thinks it can and should and has included them in a notice of sale to be held Nov. 9 of : large number of tax liens on real

Courts have taken a contrary view holding that debts more than twenty years old are outlawed. The city's appeal will probably come up before the Appellate Division of the Su preme Court this month.

Owners of some properties in and about Greenwich Village long since forgot, if indeed the present owners ever knew of, unpaid assessments for a Sixth Avenue sewer built in 1834 Similarly, certain property owners or South and Front Streets little dreamed that assessments for excavating mud from East River plers in 1842 would ever turn up against their holdings. There are also as sessment claims against real estate in various parts of the city for sewer built, street openings, regulating and paving during the Tweed regime from 1867 to 1871 and after that.

The original amounts in assess ments, judged by present figures. were small, but the city's claim of ? per cent, a year since the assessments were entered has greatly increased

A case involving the question of whether the city could collect on these old debts came up last year be-

unpaid assessment claim against the penned by the contributor. premises No. 217 Sixth Avenue for a sewer built in 1834. The original amount of \$83.89 had swelled, at 7 per cent, interest, to \$508.94.

Comptroller Craig's position regarding these old debts was stated in his to get possession of her prize, and sh affidavit. He said that for a generation or more numerous opinions had she got sight of the machine. his affidavit read, "that from time to catalogues of tax lien sales in pur- have to learn to drive first." suance of the statutory provisions applicable to such cases but, at the suggestion of the Corporation Counsel, sale, hoping that they would be paid Looram was no exception. voluntarily by the property owners without necessity of litigation."

neither he nor any other city official small prize, but when I learned I'd had power to discharge these assess- won a Ford I was too happy for ments of record, or relieve the prop- words. We'd been wanting one. he contended, could do that

The city claims that a law dealing the car.' with taxes and assessments passed in 1871 and now embodied in section 1017 of the Greater New York Charter was She bubbled with it. retroactive. At the hearing before Justice Wasservegel the attorney contesting the city's claims cited previous court decisions that after twenty have been paid, and if not paid were barred by the Statute of Limitations. Justice Wasservogel, in deciding against the city, held that the act of

1871 was not retroactive and that through the lapse of time the lien of the assessment had been discharged many years prior to the passage of this law under the general presumption of payment after twenty years. It is this case the city is appealing.

It is said there will be a considerable number of tax lien claims dating back to the times when the present Boroughs of Queens and Richmond were an aggregation of separate villages.

The great preponderance of tax however, deals with claims dating back only a few years. They affect various properties in all parts

#### **TOO FEW GRAND JURYMEN** PRESENT FOR SESSION

Queens Court Has Unusual Experi-

ence; Illness the Cause. For the first time in many years there were not sufficient Grand Jury men present in the Queens County rthouse, in Long Island City to-day. to hold a legal session. Illness and other causes kept the missing Jury-men from attending the session. The Jewish holidays had nothing to do

with it.
District Attornney Wallace had another panel drawn, and the new Grant Jury was to be selected to-day. They will meet on Thursday, when Judge Hum herey will swear them in.

#### POTTERS ON STRIKE IN TREATON PLANTS

15,000 Walk Out When Refused Wage Incres TRENTON, Oct. 2 .- A Arrike in the General Ware Potteries of this city was in effect to-day and none of the eight plants making small ware was running.

More than 500 workers struck and approximately a thousand other workers were forced to quit.

The potteries tied up, according to Vice President George H. Carlidge of the National Brotherhood, are Lenox. Inc., the two Greenwood Potteries, Cook's, the Anchor, Maddock's Pottery Company, the Merger and the International. The men demand a 7 per cent. nal. The men demand a 7 per cent.

### Four Lucky Ford Winners Express Their Delight Manhattan for 1923 taxation pur With Cars Won in "What Did You See To-Day?" Contest







NON-RESIDENTS.

In the list of assessed valuations or

real estate the Equitable Building

omes at the head, the city fixing its

value at \$30,000,000, which is the

American Telephone and Telegraph

Building, the enlargement of which

was recently completed, has been in

reased for 1923 taxation purposes t

\$17,500,000, as against \$12,500,000 for

the present year. The Stock Ex

change, which has also been enlarged,

has been jacked up to \$13,800,000

from \$10,800,000, which was the 1922

figure. The Woolworth and the Met-

ropolitan Life Insurance buildings are

namely \$12,500,000 and \$13,250,000 re-

valued at the same figures as in 1922.

Among the hotels, the Waldorf leads

with an assessed valuation of \$12,

225,000. Chief among other hote

valuations are the Pennsylvania, \$11.

tor, \$7,130,000; Ritz-Carlton, \$5,850,

\$5,000,000, and the Ansonid at \$4,500,

that of Loew's State, which is \$4,200.

000; the Strand at \$2,950,000, Cohan'

at \$2,700,000 and the Capitol at \$7,

Among apartment houses the most valuable is No. 300 Park Avenue at

\$4,925,000. The Belnord is valued at

The smallest district, bounded by

ames Street, the Bowery and Gra-

The highest theatre val

00; Plaza, \$11,500,000;

00,000; the McAlpin, \$9,850,000; As

same set for the current year.



#### Three Out of the Four Successful Contestants Won With Their First Contribution.

Four more Fords delivered to-day to happy prize winners in The Evening World's "What Did You See To-day?" contest!

Mrs. Margaret Looram of No. 935 55th Street, Brooklyn.

Mrs. Laura Gilder Simon of No. 447 15th Street, Brooklyn. Mrs. May Huthwaite of No. 989 Madison Street, Brooklyn.

Raymond Wilson of No. 2705 Richmond Terrace, Mariner's Harbor, Staten Island.

Each on a successive day had written what was considered the best con- and when I wrote it I never expected tribution from a reader-reporter on fore Justice Wasservogel in the Su- the "What Did You See To-Day?" page, and in each instance but one The city contended that it had an the prize-winning item was the first

Mrs. Locram come over to Manhattan with her sister, Mrs. Delia Galvin, widow of the late Capt. Michael J. Galvin of the Police Department. was an elated woman, especially after

been given by different Corporation "I wish I could drive it right Counsels. "It appears from the records of the Department of Finance," on the shining new door. "I'm really jealous of having any one drive it be time one Comptsoller or another has fore I do, but"-there was a note caused the items to be inserted in the of mock mourning in her voice-"I

So far every contestant who has won a Ford has said the winning of the prize is the best bit of luck that has withdrawn the items from the has ever come to her, and Mrs.

"I really didn't expect it," she said Comptroller Craig asserted that have been happy just to have won a erty owners from their obligation to was the luckiest thing that ever happay up. Only a final court decision, pened to me, and I'll think of The World every time I think o

> Mrs. Simon made no effort to hide her jubilation over her good luck.

> "I've been so excited I could hardly she announced excitedly "Have I really won it? Really? Oh when can I see it?"
> She got to see it almost immedi-

ately with her husband Sam, who is an electrician, and their two-year-old daughter, Amy. "We can go just everywhere now! she exclaimed when she saw it. "How

nice it is of The Evening World to give it to us! After that Mrs. Simon was really

too full for utterance. She sat and smiled happily while the transfe papers were being arranged.
"Oh," she exclaimed to her hus

band after a long pause, "it's good not to be rich to be able to have a thrill like I'm having!" And her husband patted her hand.

Mrs. Huthwaite herself gave the re porter a "What Did You See To-day?" tem when she was being taken up town for her car.

"This is the first time I've ever een in this part of New York," she announced as the taxt weaved from Lafayette Street in Fourth Avenuand thence into Park Avenue with its wering white apartment houses.

"I've lived in Brooklyn all my life, and while I go about a good deal never come over into New York." She peered out of the cab window at the tall buildings at 46th Street and

Park Avenue where apartments ren as high as \$30,000 a year. "Give me Madison Street, Brooklyn," she said. "I wouldn't live here

But she said she'd travel a lot over Kings, Queens and Nassau Counties

with her Ford.
"I want it as soon as I can get it," she said. "All my neighbors seem to be as happy over my winning it as am, and I want to take them riding. They all think The Evening World is the best ever to give away a car s day, and you ought to hear what my five children have to say about it! I think that little old Ford is coming

in for a lot of travel." Raymond Wilson, who is a dredger, was the last person of the day to receive his car. He is a quiet, blondhaired man, with the falr, tanned face of one who works on the water. "I'm affoat almost all the time and won't have much time to run it,"

said, "but it sure will come in fine

for Mrs. Wilson.
"I've written several items for the page, but none had been printed until the one on which I won the Ford. saw the incident from the G. H. Breymann Company's dredger Toledo,

to win a Ford on it. Even if I had fied. This is the best piece of luck ! ever had. You sure can thank The This is Mrs. Looram's prize-win-

OLD HAND AT THE BUSINESS. The closing hour at Gimbel Brothers' having almost arrived I was forced to abandon my shopping and I left by way of 23d Street in time to see the driver of a taxicab bouncing and cooing to a year-old baby girl. Having two of my own at home I naturally was interested and I could not withstand the temptation to wait and see what might happen. After ten minutes or so the baby began to fuss and cry and I approached the man and asked if I could be of any help. "No, thank you, ma'am." he said, "I'm all right. We're all right! Sure, I'm used to it, I have a houseful." He did seem to be cumstances, so I walked on but did not leave the vicinity. It was about ten minutes later that the mother, a stout woman, made her appearance, her arms filled with bundles. The taxi-driver shifted the baby to his left arm, opened the door, helped the woman in passed her the baby, closed the door, took his seat and drove away. The license number of the car is 088-366 N. Y. Here is Mrs. Simon's story;

INVITED GUESTS.

I was about to enter an ice cream shop in Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn, when I noticed the boy and girl who had their faces pressed against the window looking at the cakes and candles piled high on the other side of the glass. I entered the store, but when I was seated and considering my order I found I could not forget those two wistful faces, Barely tasting the ice cream soda, I told the clerk I would be back directly and, stepping into the street, saw that my two friends were two doors away. "Little boy! little girl!" I called, "don't you want a soda?" and to my astonishment they ran as if frightened. Well, my conscience is clear, I thought, and I returned to my soda. \* \* I scarcely had tasted it when in walked that boy and that girl at the head of procession of about a dozen "Now, we'll have a soda, lady," the boy said. I was never so embarrassed in my life, for my purse contained only a half dollar and a dime. The clerk looked from me to the gang and back again. Hastily and confusedly I explained the invitation and my plight and promptly he ordered the mob to depart. They were a disgusted and indignant lot, and when the last of them had passed out the Captain turned and fired a parting shot "Whaja ask us in fer if ya didn't mean it?" he demanded. . I remained in that store no longer than was absolutely

This is the item which won for Mrs.

TONY'S BIRTHDAY. On Atlantic Avenue I saw today a large ice truck with a baby carriage in it and a luncheon table and eight chairs. The ice truck belongs to Tony Alsprino, and he had his whole family in it, I guess, and they were going on a picnic somewhere, and on the back of it was written "TONY'S BIRTHDAY," and the truck was decorated with red, white and

And this is the one written by Mr

DIRTY WORK AT SEA. learned to-day a way to beat the high cost of laundry work.

# N. Y. Realty Values Increased \$642,626,807 For 1923 Taxes; Personalty Up \$128,569,450

Tax Department statement, to be assessed at \$75,000 each for 1923. On beim, who was assessed at \$100,000 in 1922, has been increased to \$250,000 for 1923. August Belmont is raised rom \$50,000 to \$500,000.

J. Pierpont Morgan's assessmen of \$1,000,000 remains unchanged. A. Barton Hepburn was personally taxed on a valuation of \$10,000 for 1922. Emily E. Hepburn's personal property valuation is fixed at \$1,000,000 for 1923 and that of Cerdelia S. Hepburn at \$500,000. Otto Kahn, who was assessed on a million dollars worth of property in 1922, will have o pay on only \$50,000 in 1923.

Wm. Vincent Astor's valuation is educed from \$1,000,000 to \$100,000. the assessed valuation of Charles W. Morse's personal property, which was ixed at \$750,000 in 1922, will remain it that figure in 1923 unless there is

Alian A. Ryan will be asked to pay n personal property valued at \$50,-00; Daniel G. Reid's valuation regains at \$100,000. Amon R. E. Finhot's 1923 personal valuation is fixed at '\$250,000. Anna K. Vanderbiit's aluation, which was set at \$500,000 the 1922 tax rolls is reduced to \$200,000 for 1923. That of Frederick W. Vanderbilt remains the same, at \$100,000. The same figure appears dongside the names of Harold S. and oulse A. Vanderbilt, Rachel Vanderbilt is assessed on a \$500,000 valuation and the valuations of Wm. K. and Wm. K. jr. are fixed at \$100,-00 each for 1923.

Gertrude V. Whitney's personal roperty here is valued at \$500,000; larry Payne Whitney's \$250,000; lelen Hay Whitney's, \$200,000, and Payne Whitney's, \$500,000-all the ame as the last valuation.

BIG WHALES AND SMALL FRY IN

VALUATION LIST. Other personal property valuations Abraham Erlanger ... Abraham L. Erlanger. Bruce McL. Falconer . .. (new)

clothes should have been "white

as foam." -R. Wilson, No. 2705

Harbor, S. L.

Terrace, Mariners'

The Metropolitan Club is valued at \$2,200,000, the University Club at \$2,500,000, Union at \$1,800,000, Racquet and Tennis at \$1,750,000, Yale at \$1,400,000 and Harvard at \$1,300,000. Altman's is the highest valued of the department stores. Its new assessed valuation is the same as that As the J. B. King steam lighter of 1922, \$13,800,000. Macy's comes next with an assessed valuation of \$7,950,000. Lord & Taylor's is valued passed our boat at Mariners' Harbor I saw a deckhand pin his laundry to a line and throw it \$7,550,000. stores are valued at \$7,100,000. over the stern into the water. As the boat steamed along the churn-In Manhattan, the largest district ing of the propeller cleansed the nown as the Grand Cental Zone, and extending from 40th Street to 79th clothes, the principle being the same as that of a washing ma-Street and from Fifth Avenue to the chine. By the time the lighter East River, shows an increase in roperty valuations of \$28,537,45 reached the Statue of Liberty the

550,000.

\$4,500,000

In the Bronx, the largest district, is bounded by 149th and 169th Streets, Third Avenue and East River. The icrease in that district is \$9,556,000, The smallest district in the Bronx is District 11, bounded by Westchester sk and Avenue, Morris Park Ave Huntington Creek to the City The increase in that district ver last year is \$4,865,620. In Brooklyn the largest district ounded by the East River, Flatbush and Atlantic Avenues. The increas in that district over last year is \$11.

rease in that district over last year nown as the Long Island City secion. The increase in that district

7.6x9

ft.

\$28.50

brooklyn is Section 15, bounded by

Utica Avenue, East 51st Street, Ave.

nue P. New Lots Road, Queens Bor-ough Line and Jamaica Bay. The in-

mallest district in Queens is District 17, known as the South Jamaica sec The increase in that distric er last year is \$2,265,545. The total valuation in Queens

\$799,726,010, an increase for the pur uses of State taxation of \$124,775,975 exemptions on new buildings amount o \$25,633,710, leaving for local taxa on \$714,092,500, an increase of \$99,-12,255. In Queens there were creck 14,644 new buildings, 7,227 of which were in Jamaica, 3,050 in Newtown nd Corona, and the rest scattering The valuation of all the corporation In Richmond, the largest district a District 1, running along New York Bay. The assessment in that district over last year is \$10,551,840. The smallest district in Richmond is Disrict 5, running along Staten Island In Queens, the largest district is and Raritan Bays. The increase in that district over last year is \$5,117,-

968,753,780 534,995,189 1,174,342,100

ssessed valuations of real estate f

In Manhattan 361 new buildings ire added to the tax list. In the Bronx 2,897; in Brooklyn, 9,073; in Queens, which leads all by a wide

nargin, 14,844 and Richmond, 2,384.

the total number of new buildings in

ate increases in Manhattan by sec-

Sattery to Grand Street the entire

Section 3 from 14th to 40th treet from river to river; Section

width of the Island: Section 2 from

Avenue: Section 5, from 40th to 96t

ary and cast of Lenox Avenue; Be

est of Lenox Avenue, Section

ond's is \$29,975,010.

he five boroughs is 39,859.

## 494,974,820 LITTLE TOWN ELECTION

## TO-DAY IN CONNECTICU

iver 200 Women Are Expected Be Elected.

ONECO, Conn., Oct. 2 .- To-day own election in all parts of Connout except four big cities. It is what nown as "Little Town" election tickets that many of the w ot be defeated.

NATURALLY ACCOMPLISHED. Grubbs-They tell me Mrs. Closefi

Stubbs-I don't see how she manag

Saturday

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and Essex Streets, north to 14th and to the East River, shows an increase

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